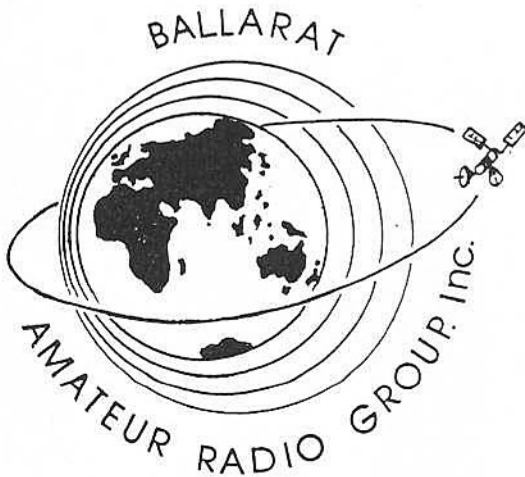


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--- JUNE 1993 ---

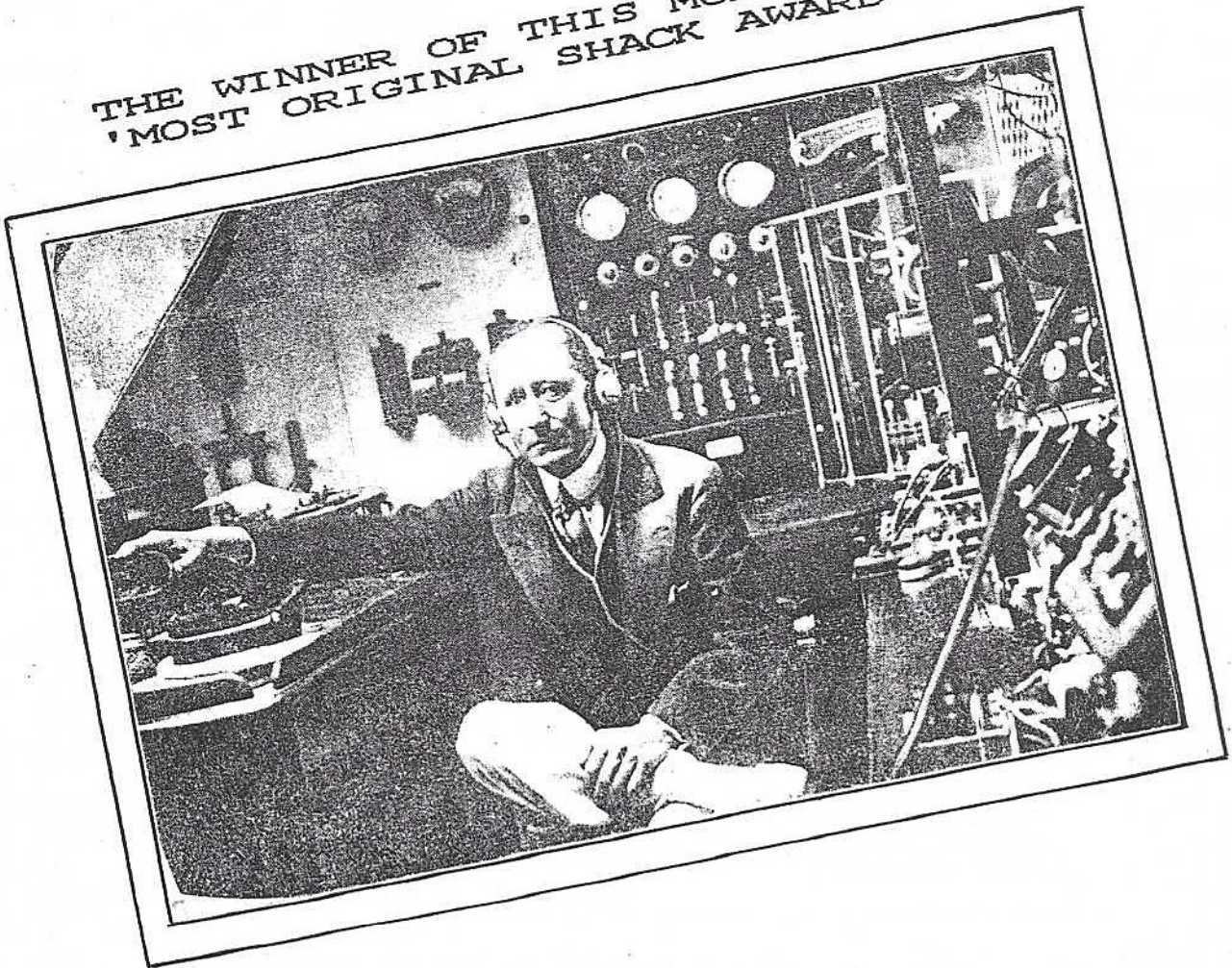


B.A.R.G. NEWS.

REGISTERED BY AUSTRALIA POST, PUBLICATION No. VBH3397

© Monthly Newsletter of the
Ballarat Amateur Radio Group

THE WINNER OF THIS MONTH'S
'MOST ORIGINAL SHACK AWARD'



GUGLIELMO MARCONI WITH HIS 'MARINE MOBILE' GEAR ON BOARD
HIS YACHT 'ELETTRA'. SOMEWHERE IN THE ATLANTIC.

			HOME	WORK
PRESIDENT	Ian Robinson	VK3FD	358031	379175
IMM. PAST PRESIDENT	Tom George	VK3DMK	355662	327234
VICE PRESIDENT	Cliff Bilston	VK3CCB	361249	330322
SECRETARY	Jim Wright	VK3CFB	327563	
TREASURER	Harry Hekkema	VK3KGL	357563	
ASST. SECRETARY	George Fowler	VK3DOK	326863	
PUBLICITY OFFICER	Norm D'Angri	VK3LBA	341613	
EDUCATION OFFICER	Tom George	VK3DMK	355662	327234
NET CO-ORDINATOR	John Hazledine	VK3CFH	391971	391035
TECHNICAL OFFICER	Merv Hookey	VK3KAW		311317
MEMBERS' REPS.	Mary Curnow	VK3FMC	301927	
	Reg Carter	VK3CAZ	417585	
	Charlie Stewart	VK3DCS	317425	

QSL MANAGER	Jeff Pigdon	VK3PAP	327041	311211
AWARDS MANAGER	Maurie Batt	VK3XEX	422245	
PROPERTY OFFICER	Jeff Pigdon	VK3PAP	327041	311211
HAMFEST CONVENER	Tom George	VK3DMK	355662	327234
WICEN COMMITTEE	Gordon Cornell	VK3FGC	392427	391135
	Geoff Smith	VK3ADB	332112	
	Tom George	VK3DMK	355662	327234
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE	Ian McDonald	VK3AXH		311317
	Dick Forrester	VK3VU	357663	391001
	Merv Hooley	VK3KAW		311317
	Dick Antoziewicz	VK3AEX	323273	
	David McConnell	VK3YNB		
	Ben Orchard	VK3TOP		377836
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Norm D'Angri	VK3LBA	341613	

[illegible]

REPEATERS: VK3RBA - 146.750 MHz. Voice. Mt. Buninyong. (Ch. 3)
 VK3RBS - 146.900 MHz. Voice. Smeaton Hill. (Ch. 6)
 VK3RPC - 144.750 MHz. Packet Mt. Warrenheip
 VK3RBU - 438.475 MHz. Voice. Mt. Hollowback

CLUB NET: Thursday nights at 8 pm. (8.30 pm. during daylight saving)
Freq. - 3.610 MHz. +/- QRM.

FOX HUNTS: Monday nights at 7.30 pm.
Freq. - 146.500 MHz. Meet at Education Centre - Hopetoun St.

2 METRE SCRAMBLE: Sunday nights at 7.50 pm.
Freq. - 146.425 MHz. to 146.600 MHz. Call back on VK3RBA.

MEETINGS: Last Friday of every month at 7.30 pm. at
Ballarat Community Education Centre
Hopetoun St. Ballarat.

MAURIE BATT	VK3XEX	
KEVIN HUGHES	VK3WN	
IAN McDONALD	VK3AXH	
PHIL SEDDON	VK3AQM	
GEORGE SMALL	VK3DKJ	(DEC)
STAN WIDGERY	VK3SE	

The Secretary
B. A. R. G. Inc.
P. O. BOX 1261
MAIL CENTRE BALLARAT
3354

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES TO:
29 Lawrence St.
Alfredton
Ballarat
Vic. 3350

DISCLAIMER : Whilst every care is taken in the preparation and reporting of events and articles in this newsletter, the Ballarat Amateur Radio Group Inc., its officers and members do not accept any liability for any disputed article or comment. Views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor or the Committee of B.A.R.G. Inc.. Projects are presented in good faith and are assumed to have been validated by the contributor. Reproduction of articles for use in other Radio Club magazines is permissible providing acknowledgement of the source is given.

MEETING OPENED by President Ian VK3FD at 7.45pm. 56 members in attendance.

APOLOGIES. VK3 SE, NIZ, DS, FR, BNC, DMK, EF, XEX and Wendy.KGL.

MINUTES of previous meeting as printed in newsletter confirmed. XDQ/JFL.

CORRESPONDENCE OUT DOTC requesting permission to use BML at Haddon S.S.

TREASURERS REPORT General a/c \$342.61. St. George Bank a/c \$5123.52.
Accounts passed for payment \$117.00. DCS/DOK.

CLUB NET still being well supported.

EDUCATION Class still proceeding well.

TECHNICAL RBU is being worked on. Packet Link waiting on Melbourne.

WICEN Operators required for Mallee Rally, contact FGC or CCB.

Moved CCB seconded KAW that Club loan Wicen the Generator. carried.

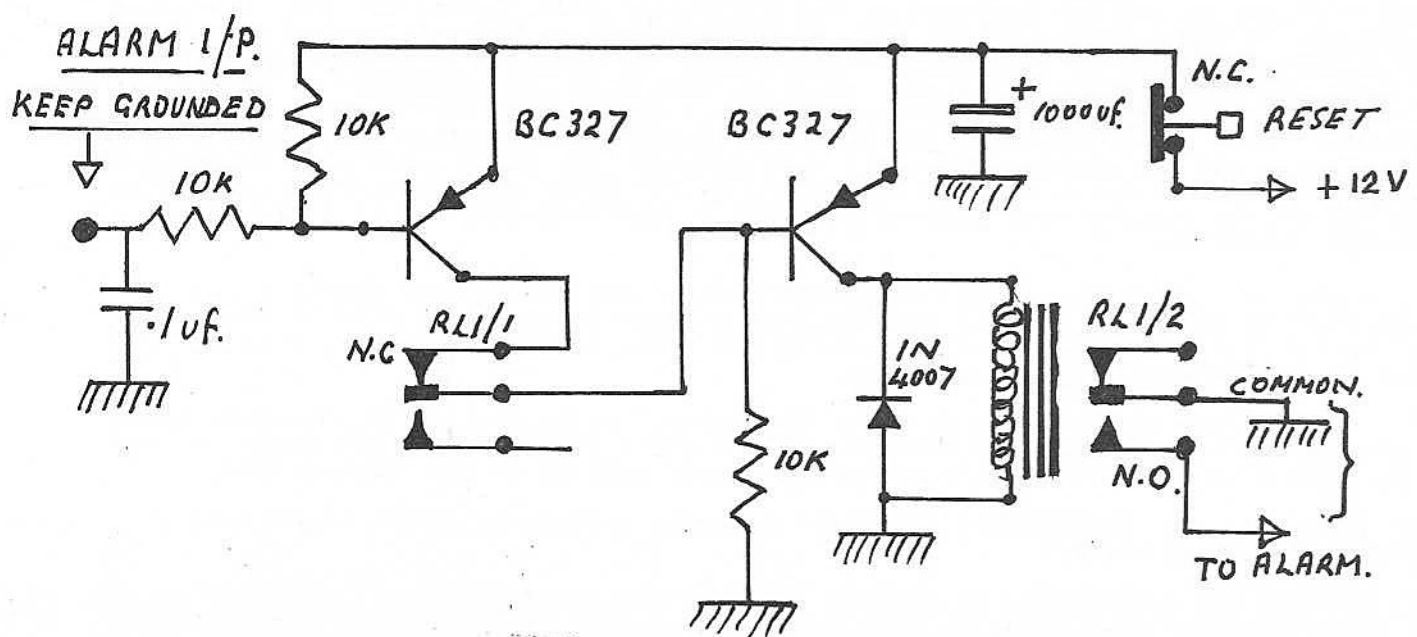
GENERAL BUSINESS. ATV repeater experiments still being carried out.

Committee meeting on 23rd June at Ian's QTH.

MEETING CLOSED at 8.15 and George DOK proceeded to auction the Junk.

#####

A HANDY-ALARM FOR THE CAR, HOUSE OR SHACK



MAKE UP THIS HANDY-ALARM TO PROTECT YOUR RIGS, YOUR CAR, OR EVEN YOUR HOUSE. THE INPUT SHOULD BE KEPT GROUNDED THROUGH THE SENSING DEVICE.

(Contributed by TREVOR (VK3YJT) and DAVID (VK3YNB))



A PAINFUL MOMENT: WHEN YOU REALISE THE HAIRDRYER'S BEEN SET TO 'SUCK'.

93/06 04

VK3XI - HARRY'S 77 YEAR LOVE AFFAIR WITH RADIO



At age 11 Harry Duggan (VK3XI) used his mother's clothes line to intercept radio signals to navy warships. Now - two world wars and 77 years later - the Warrnambool octogenarian uses his high-tech radio equipment to communicate with fellow radio hams around the world.

It was during the first world war, while living in Geelong, that Harry used the clothes line to listen to the morse communications between the warships. The receiver was a crystal and the earpiece off the telephone. There were four hams involved in this youthful experiment and the quartet went on to form the Geelong Amateur Radio Club which is still active today.

Harry is still very inovative and on the lookout for novel communication methods. A few years ago he flew several kites, each carrying aloft a radio antenna, and he once used an apple tree - pierced with a nail - to contact a VK6. He also fitted a 35 ft. high antenna to his 'Moped'. "You could get overseas with it at the right time of day " Harry said.

As soon as you walk into Harry's flat, on the bank of the Hopkins River, it is obvious that this man is obsessed with radios. Apart from the two H.F. rigs and matching amplifiers, he also has a C.B. unit and two UHF radios - along with all of the wires, leads, and switches which he uses to maintain his impressive equipment. Most of his previous equipment was lost in the Ash Wednesday fires. His Grassmere property wasn't hard to find. It was the only one in the district with four 33 metre antenna towers which Harry used for his world wide amateur radio contacts.

A life member of the Warrnambool Amateur Radio Club, Harry has been an amateur operator since 1928. He regularly speaks with American and South African radio operators and has traded conversations with the King of Jordan and a Malaysian Prince. "When I stopped counting there were up to 200 odd countries that I had worked. About 15 years ago I spoke with Hams in a surfaced submarine in Alaska, a snowmobile operator in Antarctica, and another one on a train crossing the Nullabor, all in the one day".

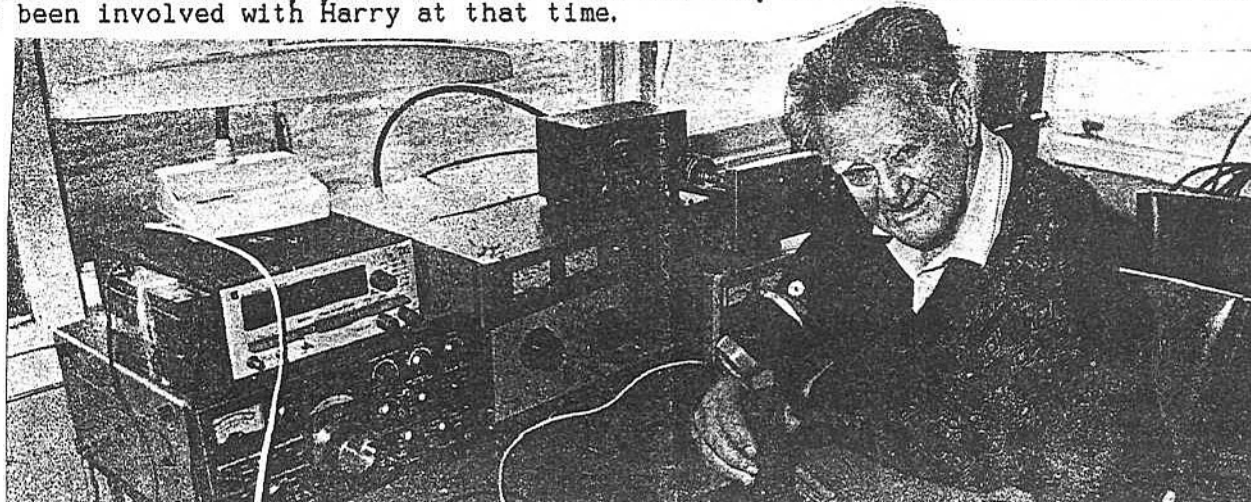
Harry's expertise saw him summoned to the R.A.A.F.'s radar school in 1941, where he became one of their first instructors. He was promoted to Sergeant and invited to join a secret mission to test new portable radar. He worked with scientists in building the experimental prototype, which at that time was considered to be Australia's secret weapon. During testing of the device near Port Kembla, Harry noticed a 'blip' about 30 miles out to sea. A plane was eventually despatched and, on return, reported the sinking of an aircraft packing case which could be a nuisance to shipping. It was not until Harry attended the recent Radar convention held in Bendigo that one of the plane's crew members revealed to him that they had in fact sunk a Japanese Submarine.

The 88-year old airwaves veteran became Chief Engineer at the Warrnambool's Fletcher Jones factory after the war. It was the last occupation on a long list of enterprises that he tackled , including a dry cleaning business, a steam laundry, electrical and radio store, caravan park and a garage.

Harry says he has one last aim in life: "the oldest radio amateur is 103. I am going my hardest to try and catch up with him but he won't stop." But if the hobby he talks of so highly is any sort of life support he could well be on air 'beyond 2000.'

(Our thanks to the 'WARRNAMBOOL STANDARD' for this article by Andrew Meath with pictures by Damien White.)

This article was contributed by Charlie (VK3VEJ) who goes on to say that Harry taught the Morse Code for many years at Lake Bolac and many of the older BARG members would have been involved with Harry at that time.



93/06 05



A 'NEIGHBOURPROOF' (OR NEARLY) BATTERY CHARGER

Are you 'cheesed off' with lending your 5A battery charger to a neighbour and finding, after its devious return path (or should that be 'long path') via his XYL to your XYL, that it doesn't function due to his having shorted the output leads together whilst it was turned on?

When you rebuild it, modify the circuit to that shown below and even if the leads are shorted the charger will just pass the predetermined current and not 'blow up'. Also if you have to charge a 6V or 8V battery it will limit the current to this set maximum value irrespective of the battery voltage.

One thing though! Mount the 2N3055 on a decent size heatsink and if you feel that the charger is going to be 'abused' fit flag type heat sinks to the BD139's.

The value of 0.12 ohms will give a maximum current of 5A assuming your transformer and rectifier can supply that much. To vary the desired current charge rate then just decide what the maximum current is to be and, using Ohms Law, calculate the value of R2 assuming 0.6 volts across R2.

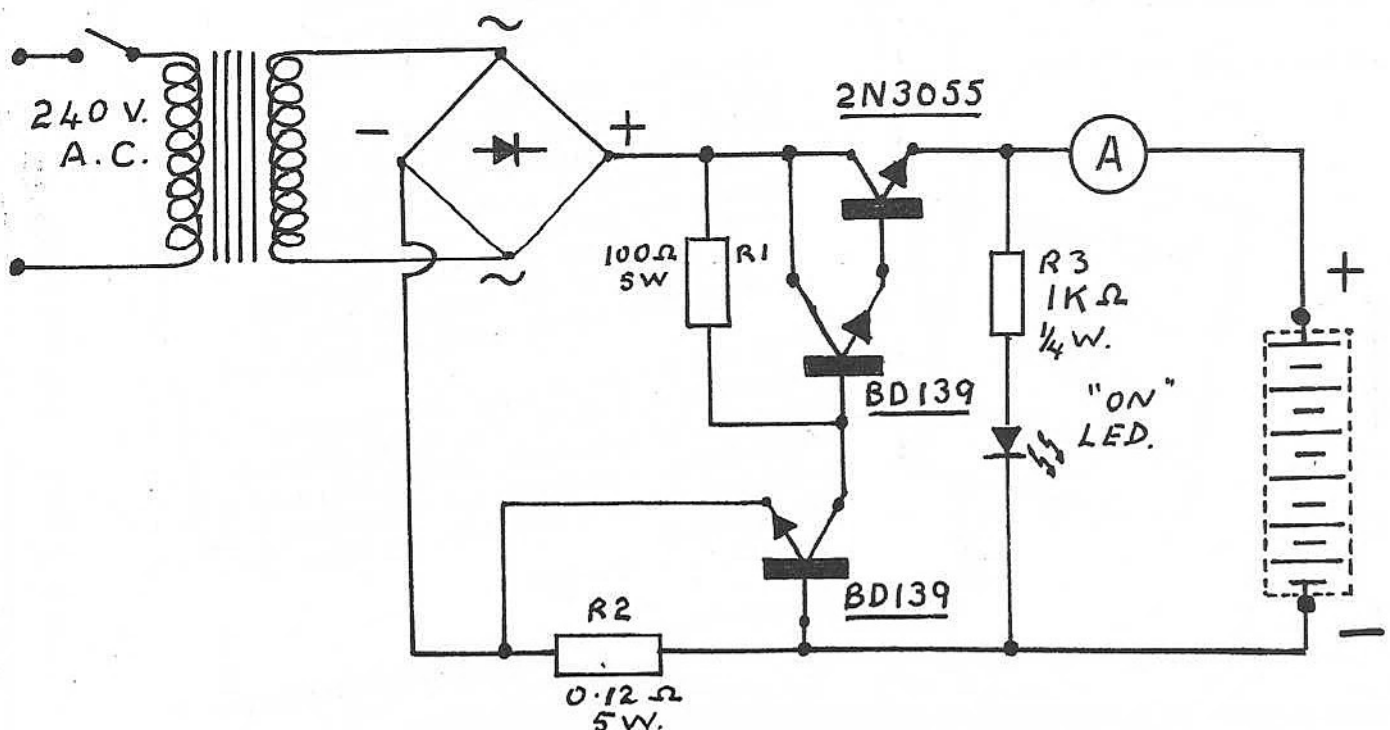
So if you want a maximum current of say 3 Amps then $R2$ becomes $0.6V/3A = 0.2$ ohms. which you can make up from combinations of resistors.

Remember to rate the power dissipation of both R1 and R2 highly enough to avoid problems. If you use 5 watt values that will be safe enough.

There are so few components that you don't need a PCB. A couple of 'tag strips' are enough and most components can hang in mid-air.

For 5A a value of 0.12 ohm can be obtained by a parallel combination of 0.22 and 0.27 ohms. For 3A the values will be 0.22 and 4.7 ohms. Other combinations can be worked out to suit the junkbox or catalogue.

73 - REG (VK3CAZ)



93/06 06

COMING EVENTS

June:

Dick Smith Balloon
flight across Aust.

11th: Natter Night

12th-14th.
Queen's Birthday

12th - 13th.
Mt. Gambier Convention

13th.
Mallee Rally

19th-20th.
Novice Contest

23rd. B. A. R. G.
Executive Meeting

25th: BARG Meeting

July:

9th. Natter Night

30th: BARG ANNUAL G. M.

August:

*14th: R. D. Contest

*15th: R. D. Contest

27th: BARG Meeting

* Dates not confirmed.

DON'T FORGET
JULY 30th.
B.A.R.G.
ANNUAL MEETING

NOTICE BOARD



B.A.R.G.
EXECUTIVE MEETING
WEDNESDAY 23RD JUNE AT 7.30 PM
AT PRESIDENT IAN'S (VK3FD)

NO ADS. THIS MONTH
The Junk Auction
must have been a
great success !

MODERATION IS FOR MONKS.

SITUATIONS VACANT

WANTED URGENTLY

REPORTERS

VACANCIES EXIST FOR THE POSITIONS OF HONORARY REPORTERS
(115 VACANCIES)

DUTIES:

To assist the B.A.R.G. Newsletter Editor
in collecting or compiling information or
articles for inclusion in this publication.

Applicants are warned that, with a few exceptions,
potential contributors will need to be cajoled,
harassed, and harangued to convince them that the
wealth of information, knowledge, humour and
experience that they share between them is of
interest to other BARG members and of course forms
an important part of the development curve of
new and intending entrants to this great hobby of ours.

If YOU think that you can assist with reporting on
articles such as: projects, trips, hi-tech or low-tech
data or news, activity reports, photos of gear, a bit of
relevant humour, or someone may want help obtaining that
special piece of gear or information, then contact the
Editor with details.

PLEASE

HONESTY PAYS - BUT NOT MUCH.

All I want is a warm bed, a kind word, and UNLIMITED POWER.

7090/3p

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We wish to nominate for the
position of of B.A.R.G.
for the 1993 / 1994 year.
Nominator (Signature)
Secondar (Signature)
Signature of nominated person

Date:

NOMINATION FORM

B.A.R.G. NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICE - 1993/94
The Annual General Meeting will be held on Friday 30th July 1993
If you wish to nominate a member for a position please complete
the details below and return the completed form to the Secretary
Jim (VK3CFB) by Friday 16th July.

The elephant is the only animal with 4 knees.
A "Ten Gallon Hat" only holds .75 gallons.
Goldfish get seasick if kept on board a ship.
Esquimos use refrigerators to keep their food from freezing.
A bee can haul along 300 times its own weight.

DID YOU KNOW ?

CO-AX IDENTIS
Have you tried keeping the plastic
tags that are used for sealing the
bags on loaves of sliced bread ?
If you pinch/borrow or steal the
XYL's "freezer pen" it will write
on them and
nicely over
RG59 and it
you to
all of those
leave the shack
the antennae, and
you anything!
REG- VK3CAZ

24 cm. A.T.V.
Although traditionally thought of as
a band for more advanced work, 24cm.
(1.3GHz) now has quite a large number
of A.T.V. repeaters. Also it is something
of a myth that contacts on this band are
wholly line-of-sight and that no DX is
possible. It happens quite often that
conditions on 70cm. and below may be
relatively 'flat' whereas on the lower
microwave bands things are quite active,
and very good DX can be found.
The 24cm. band does not necessarily have
a much reduced range when compared with
70cm. however to be effective over long
distances it is of benefit if the stations
are located on high ground enabling a
wide area to be 'seen' by the aerials.

DAVID (VK3YNB)

GET OUT BEFORE ANYONE FINDS OUT.

WHEN YOU'VE DONE YOUR BEST -

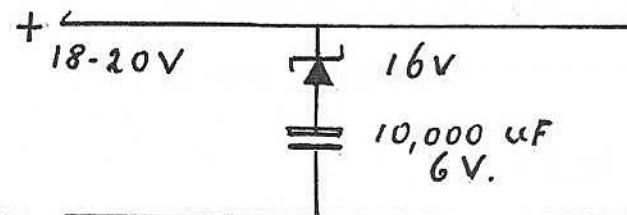


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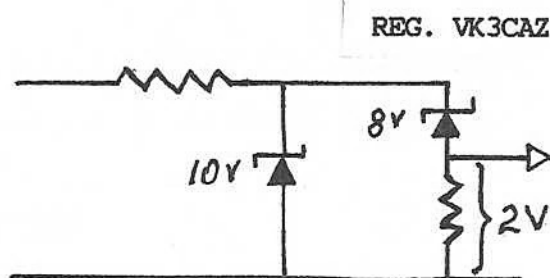


USING ZENER DIODES

A Zener can be used to increase the voltage rating of a capacitor BUT watch the rating of the zener due to the 'inrush' charging current of the capacitor.



Two Zeners can be used to develop a regulated low voltage.



PROBLEM FOR JUNE

TRY THIS ONE

If you were calibrating a circuit using some precision resistors and you had only three of them, say 10 Ω , 30 Ω , and 50 Ω , how many values of resistance could you get by using various combinations and configurations of them apart from the original values.

It is quite surprising how many values you can obtain.

GOOD LUCK - Answers next month.

Ω Ω Ω Ω Ω Ω Ω Ω Ω Ω

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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE BALLARAT AMATEUR RADIO GROUP INC.

B. A. R. G. NEWS

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